SOLUTIONS INTERMEDIATE 5

CULTURE 4:

ROYAL PLACES

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WHAT ARE THE BASIC THINGS THAT A PERSON NEEDS TO CONTINUE LIVING?

WHERE IS SHELTER?

WHAT IS SHELTER?

1 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

1 Have you visited any castles or palaces in your country? Which are the most famous ones? Why?

2 Do you recognise the palace in the photo? What do you know about it?

2 Cover the fact file. Discuss and try to guess the answers to the quiz about Buckingham Palace.

How many ...

1 ... rooms are there?

    a 263   **b** 542   **c** 775

2 ... people work there?

    a over 600   **b** over 800   **c** over 1,000

3 ... clocks are there?

    a 150   **b** 250   **c** 350

4 ... guests are entertained there every year?

    a over 10,000   **b** over 50,000   **c** over 100,000

5 ... people can have dinner together?

    a 150   **b** 370   **c** 600

6 ... times has the Palace been broken into?

    a none   **b** 6   **c** 12

3 Read the fact file and check your answers to exercises 1 and 2. What do you think is the most interesting or surprising fact?

Buckingham Palace

* Buckingham Palace is the Queen's official London residence, but she doesn't own it. It belongs to the state.

* The first monarch to use Buckingham Palace as her official residence was Queen Victoria, who moved there in 1837.

* Buckingham Palace is like a small town – it has a chapel, post office, swimming pool, staff cafeteria, doctor's surgery, cinema and police station.

* It has seven hundred and seventy-five rooms. Fifty-two are Royal and guest bedrooms and seventy-eight are bathrooms. There are one hundred and eighty-eight bedrooms for the staff.

* There are secret tunnels under the streets of London, connecting the Palace to the Houses of Parliament.

* The gardens are huge – sixteen hectares – and include tennis courts, a lake and a helicopter landing area. There are thirty species of birds and three hundred and fifty species of wild flowers; some of them are very rare indeed.

* Over eight hundred people work at the palace, including two people who work full-time to look after the palace's three hundred and fifty clocks!

* The Queen has over fifty thousand guests each year at lunches, dinners, receptions and parties. The kitchens are able to serve a sit-down dinner for six hundred people at one time.

* Hundreds of famous people have visited the palace, including Mozart, J. F. Kennedy, Nelson Mandela, Pope John Paul II, and Mahatma Gandhi – in his loincloth and sandals!

* The palace has been broken into on at least six occasions. Teenager Edward Jones broke in three times between 1838 and 1841 and stole some of Queen Victoria's underwear! Michael Fagin broke in in 1992 and went to Queen Elizabeth's bedroom, where he woke her up before he was arrested.

1 WHO DOES BUCKINGHAM PALACE BELONG TO?

2 WHEN DID THE PALACE BECOME THE HOME OF A RULING MONARCH?

3 WHERE DO THE SECRET TUNNELS LEAD?

4 WHAT DID EDWARD JONES STEAL FROM QUEEN VICTORIA?

HOLYROOD PALACE

BALMORAL PALACE

SANDRINGHAM PALACE

HILLSBOROUGH PALACE

WINDSOR PALACE

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

4 🎧 **4.09** Listen to a radio programme. Complete the information about the Queen's residences. Use the places below in the first column.

Belfast, Northern Ireland   Edinburgh, Scotland
the Highlands, Scotland   London, England
near London, England   Norfolk, England

Royal Residence	Location	Private or state-owned?
Buckingham Palace		
Windsor Castle		
Sandringham House		
Balmoral Castle		
Holyrood Palace		
Hillsborough Castle		

5 🎧**4.09** **Listen again and complete each sentence with up to three words.**

1 When the Queen is in this country, she has quite a strict

_____ .

2 Once a week she has a meeting with with the British

_____ .

3 The Queen usually spends _____ at Windsor Castle.

4 Windsor Castle has been a royal home since _____ .

5 The Royal Family spend _____ at Sandringham House.

6 Sandringham House was damaged in the First

_____ .

7 The Queen spends the _____ in Scotland.

8 Queen Victoria bought Balmoral because she really liked

_____ .

9 Buckingham Palace receives lots of _____ when it is open during the summer.

6 **SPEAKING** Discuss these questions in pairs. Give reasons for your opinions.

1 What do you think about Queen Elizabeth's way of life? Would you enjoy being king or queen? Why? / Why not?
2 Do you think it is right that one family should have so many places to live?
3 What would your ideal house be like?

DESCRIBE A FAMOUS BUILDING IN IRAN WITHOUT GIVING ITS NAME. YOUR FRIENDS HAVE TO GUESS.

DO YOU REMEMBER QUEEN VICTORIA AND OSBORNE HOUSE?